

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 20-33 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 20, 28, 29 and 33 have been amended by the present Amendment. Amended claims 3, 20, 28, 29 and 33 do not add new matter.

**CLAIM OBJECTION**

The Examiner objects to claim 33 for the reason stated on page 2 of the office action. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants have amended claims 33 to change "he" to "the".

As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 33.

**ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 20-23 and 29-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103**

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of (1) claims 3-5, 24-28, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0044117 ("Matsumura"); and (2) claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumura.

Claim 3 has been amended to incorporate some of the features of allowable claim 20, specifically, that, "in a frame period next to said one frame period, the signal controller controls the gate driver and the data driver such that the black data signal is applied to pixels connected to gate lines of the second scanning area while gate-on

voltages are applied to the gate lines of the second scanning area and then, the normal data signals are applied to the pixels connected to gate lines of the first scanning area while gate-on voltages are sequentially applied to the gate lines of the first scanning area in a direction opposite to the arranging direction of the gate lines."

Claim 28 has been amended to incorporate some of the features of allowable claim 29, specifically, "applying, in a frame period next to said one frame period, the black data signal to pixels connected to gate lines of the second scanning area while gate-on voltages are applied to the gate lines of the second scanning area; and

then, applying, in the frame period next to said one frame period, the normal data signals to the pixels connected to gate lines of the first scanning area while gate-on voltages are sequentially applied to the gate lines of the first scanning area in a direction opposite to the arranging direction of the gate lines."

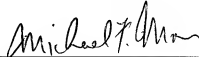
Applicants respectfully submit that Matsumura fails to disclose these features of amended claims 3 and 28. For example, Matsumura does not disclose that the "gate-on voltages are sequentially applied to the gate lines of the first scanning area in a direction opposite to the arranging direction of the gate lines", as recited in amended claims 3 and 28.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 3 and 28 and the claims dependent thereon are not anticipated by and are patentable over the cited reference.

As such Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 3-5, 24-28, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), and of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Morano", written over a horizontal line.

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